

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Prisons and Forced Labor Camps	DATE DISTR.	31 July 1953
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1. Sofia has two prisons: the Central Prison and the Maleshevtzi Prison for juvenile delinquents up to the age of 16, located in the Ovtsha Kupel quarter.
2. The Central Prison consists of a number of buildings. The main building, where prisoners are held, has four stories. Its left wing is used for political prisoners and its right wing for all other prisoners, including murderers. The prison has a capacity of 3,000 to 3,500 men, and is always full. Most of the cells are 2.5 by 3 meters, and each cell holds four to six inmates. All the prisoners work, with the exception of political prisoners, some in workshops inside the prison, others on construction jobs outside. The prison has ten workshops doing carpentry, sewing, shoemaking, metal work, upholstery, printing, automobile repairs, and knitwear. Most of the workers in the knitwear workshop are women, of whom there are about 40 or 50.
3. Prison routine is as follows:

5:00 a.m.	Reveille
6 - 6:30	Breakfast
6:30 - 7:00	Exercise in the yard. Those working outside the prison walls go to work at 6:30 a.m.
7:00 - 12:00 noon	Working hours
12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.	Dinner and rest period. Dinner consists of a soup (beans, vegetables, etc.) and three-quarters of an 800 gram loaf of bread. Aged people who cannot work receive only half a loaf. Twice a week prisoners receive a meat ration of 20 to 30 grams.

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1:00 - 4:30 p.m. Working hours
4:00 - 5:30 Exercise in the yard
6:00 - 7:00 Supper (soup)
7:00 Check in the cells (roll call).

4. The administration of the Central Prison in Sofia has a staff of 50, including seven or eight chief supervisors.

5. Bulgaria has seven or eight forced labor camps. The locations of three of these are:

- a. Somovit in the Pleven area; prisoners are employed on improvement work on the Danube river banks;
- b. Tolbukhin, where there is an agricultural forced labor camp; and
- c. Krichim, in the Stara Planina district, where prisoners are employed in the local quarries.

6. The following personalities were known

- a. Ivan Arnaudov, one of the chief supervisors at the Central Prison in Sofia;
- b. Pesho Bazh (sic), manager of the Central Prison in Sofia from 1948 to 1949;
- c. Boris Khristov, one of the chief supervisors at the Central Prison in Sofia;
- d. (Fnu) Diankov, manager of the Central Prison in Sofia from 1949 to 1951;
- e. Nikolay Ivanov, one of the chief supervisors at the Central Prison in Sofia; and
- f. Nissim Pinkas, former deputy manager of the Central prison in Sofia. He is a lawyer and is now the Legal Adviser to the Central Committee for Physical Training.

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